



# *NEWS RELEASE*

## **MAINE DISTRICT OFFICE**

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### **WILFONG NAMED BY THE SBA TO RECEIVE THE 2004 VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE AWARD**

Augusta, Maine -- James F. Wilfong, President, TradeNex, is the recipient of the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 2004 Maine Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year award. John R. Massaua, State Director of the Maine Small Business Development Center nominated Wilfong for the award.

Wilfong received the award for his leadership with the National Veterans Corporation. The corporation focuses on the advantages of entrepreneurship and small business for veterans, facilitating a partnership that gives veterans business training.

Jim Wilfong, an Entrepreneur in Residence at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, created FastTrac for Veterans, a partnership program involving the Kauffman Foundation, the Veterans Corporation and the Gateway Computer Company. The Veterans Corporation chose Maine as the pilot state for the role out of the FastTrac for Veterans program.

Retired General and CEO of the Veterans Corporation, Charles Henry states, "In the past two years I have relied very heavily on Jim's advice and counsel, and can attest that the success that we have had on behalf of veterans across America at the Veterans Corporation and has been a direct result of this gentleman's efforts".

Wilfong will be honored at the SBA awards celebration May 25<sup>th</sup> at Spectacular Event Center in Bangor. For further information on the award recipients or the award celebration contact Bonnie Erickson at 207-622-8275 or Sandra Fontaine at 207-622-8381.